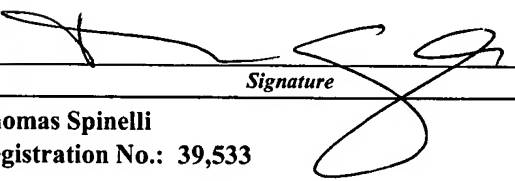



IFU

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)					Docket No. 16224Z	
Applicant(s): Shotaro Takemoto, et al.						
Application No. 10/724,814	Filing Date December 1, 2003	Examiner Ryan J. Severson	Customer No. 23389	Group Art Unit 3731	Confirmation No. 5568	
Invention: ENDOSCOPIC SUTURING						
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	9 -	21 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	5 -	11 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	
<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: row-reverse;"><div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-1013/SSMP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.</div><div style="width: 50%;"><p>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"><div style="width: 45%;"><div style="text-align: center;"> _____ Signature</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">Thomas Spinelli Registration No.: 39,533</div></div><div style="width: 50%; text-align: right;"><div>Dated: January 8, 2007</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on <div style="text-align: center;">1/8/2007 (Date)</div><div style="text-align: center;"> _____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</div><div style="text-align: center;">Thomas Spinelli _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</div></div></div></div></div></div> <div data-bbox="974 283 1218 525" data-label="Image"></div> <div data-bbox="1304 2003 1455 2024" data-label="Page-Footer"><p>P11LARGE/REV10</p></div>						



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shotaro Takemoto, et al. **Examiner:** Ryan J. Severson
Serial No: 10/724,814 **Art Unit:** 3731
Filed: December 1, 2003 **Docket:** 16224Z
For: ENDOSCOPIC SUTURING **Dated:** January 8, 2007
Conf. No.: 5568

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

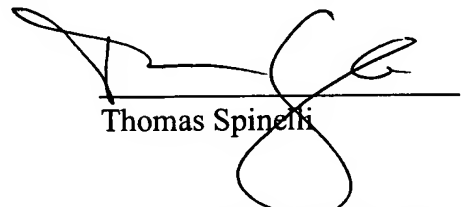
Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 6, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Dated: January 8, 2007



Thomas Spinelli